

What is claimed is:

1. A carpet comprising:

a) pile comprising a plurality of face yarns;

5 b) a primary backing having a face surface and a back surface, said face yarns being secured to said primary backing and extending from said face surface thereof; and

c) an impermeable hydrophobic barrier bonded to said primary backing, wherein substantially the entire surface of the portion of said face yarn which is not encased within at least one of said barrier or said backing is hydrophobic.

10 2. The carpet of claim 1 wherein said face yarn is selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polyamides, polyesters, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and polytrimethylene terephthalate (PTT), natural fibers, and mixtures thereof.

15 3. The carpet of claim 1 wherein said primary backing is selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polyamides, natural fibers, and mixtures thereof.

4. The carpet of claim 3 wherein said primary backing comprises polypropylene fibers.

20 5. The carpet of claim 1 wherein said barrier is bonded to the back surface of said primary backing with an adhesive.

25 6. The carpet of claim 1 wherein barrier self-adheres directly to said primary backing.

7. The carpet of claim 1 wherein said barrier impregnates at least a portion of said primary backing.

8. The carpet of claim 1 wherein said barrier is in direct contact with said face yarn.

9. The carpet of claim 1 wherein said exposed portion of said face yarn is coated with a repellent/stainblocker.

10. The carpet of claim 1 further comprising a secondary backing.

11. The carpet of claim 10 wherein said secondary backing is bonded directly to the back face of said primary backing.

12. The carpet of claim 10 wherein said secondary backing is intermediate to said primary backing and said secondary backing.